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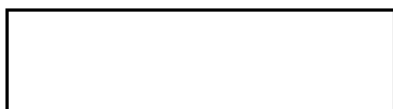


DIRECTORATE OF
INTELLIGENCE

Imagery Analysis Service Notes

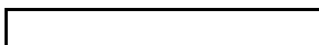
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Directorate of Intelligence
Imagery Analysis Service

IMAGERY ANALYSIS SERVICE NOTES NO. 15/70

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USSR

Orbita Facility Identified in Remote Area of Siberia

A newly identified Orbita facility is under construction near Bilibino, above the Arctic Circle in the extreme northeastern region of Siberia. Orbita facilities are receiving stations for television signals which are relayed via the Molniya communications satellites.

The configuration of the control building at this facility differs slightly from most of the other Orbita facilities which have been seen and the location is unusual because the area is relatively unpopulated.

This is one of some 33 Orbita facilities announced by the Soviets, and about 30 have been identified on photography.

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CHINAStatus of the Iron and Steel Industry

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A photographic study indicates that the Chinese continued the expansion and modernization of iron and steel production facilities during [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Of the 43 plants included in the study, 35 were observed in operation, including the major plants at Pao-tou, Shanghai, and Wu-han. The An-shan plant and three secondary plants were not seen on interpretable photography.

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Construction activity was observed at 22 plants. A large rolling mill was partially completed at Pao-tou, a large addition to a rolling mill was completed at Shih-ching-shan, the railroad car holding yard was completed at Shao-kuan, and an addition to the open-hearth furnace building was under construction at Wu-han. At Lu-ta, one blast furnace was completed and construction of another may be under way. Significant progress was observed at the large complex under construction at Jen-ho-chieh, where iron production facilities have been identified. Construction at the Chiu-chuan plant, previously observed proceeding at a fairly fast pace, appears to have slowed.

Coverage of the Tai-yuan plant shows that the basic oxygen furnace building is designed for four furnaces. With these, China will have a total of at least 12 modern basic oxygen furnaces, which are efficient producers of high-quality steel.

For detailed descriptions of these plants, see IAS report, Selected Iron and Steel Plants, China, [REDACTED]

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